

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Disclosed is an improvement in a process of preparing cyclohexenyl and alkenyl aromatic compounds, such as styrene, that enables economical and convenient removal of nitrogen compounds. The nitrogen compounds can be stabilizers or neutralizers or derived from stabilizers or neutralizers added to prevent styrene homopolymerization. The nitrogen compounds are removed from, in the case of styrene production, the benzene fraction that results from dehydrogenation of ethylbenzene. Because of the preferential solubility of nitrogen compounds in water, a majority of such compounds can be removed by intimately contacting the benzene fraction with sufficient water, at an appropriate point in the process, and then removing most or all of the water with the entrained nitrogen compounds.

15